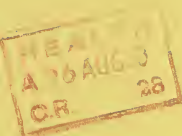


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DORE AND BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

FOR

YEAR

1949.



DORE AND BREDWARDINE RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH:-

William Hogg, M.B., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., M.R.S.I.

CLERICAL STAFF:-

Miss D.R. Plascott (resigned 30th May, 1949)

Miss M.W. Burns (appointed 1st June, 1949)

Telephone Ross 214.

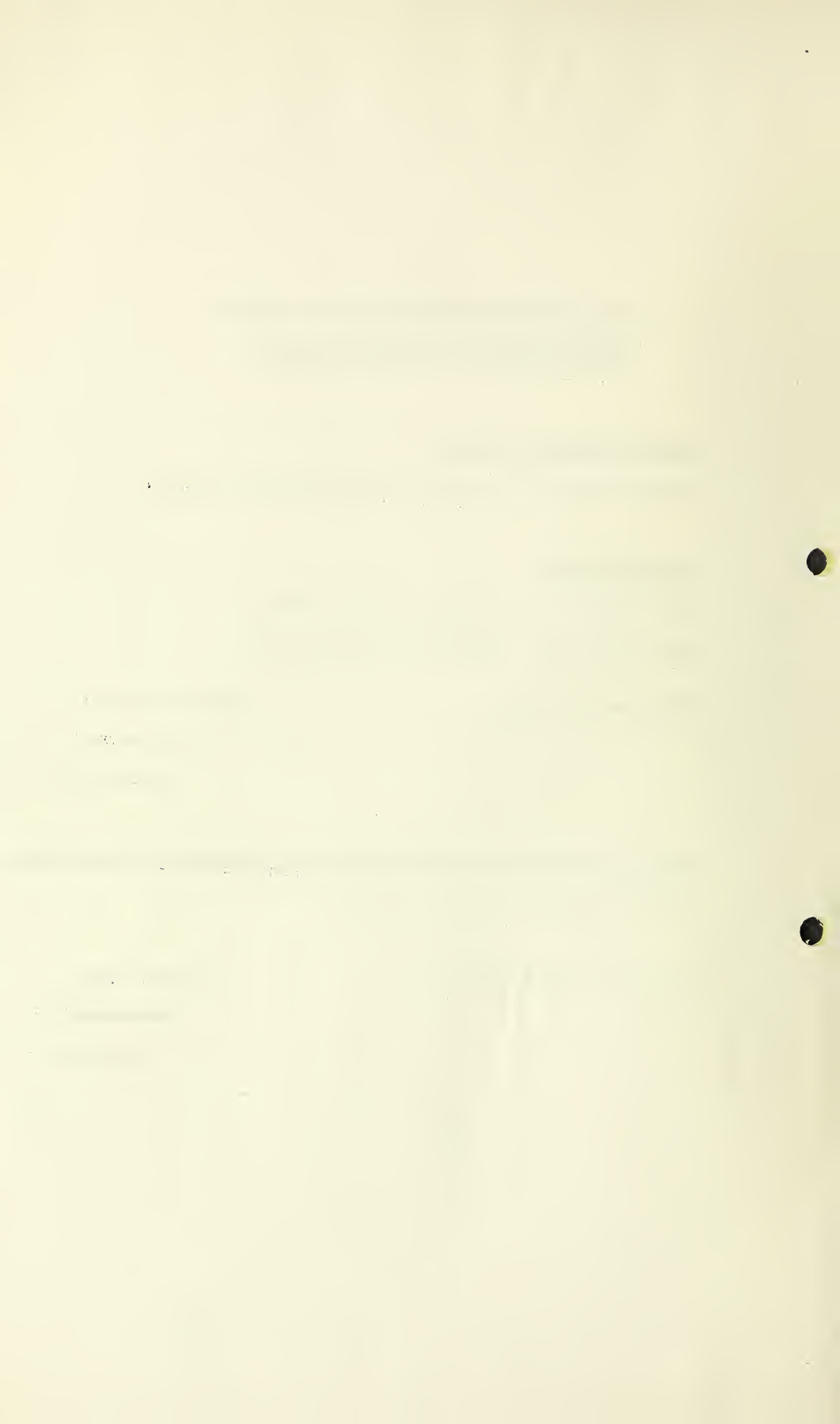
County Offices,  
Alton Street,  
Ross-on-Wye.

SANITARY INSPECTOR, SANITARY SURVEYOR AND HOUSING DESIGNATED OFFICER:-

David J. Francis, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

Telephone -Peterchurch 241.

Urishay House,  
Peterchurch,  
Hereford.



Dore and Bredwardine Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1949, furnished in accordance with articles 6 (3) and 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935 and Circular 2/50 of the Ministry of Health.

The preparation of the Report has been facilitated by assistance most willingly given by my colleagues, Mr. F. Craze, Clerk to the Council, Miss Sayce, Financial Officer and Mr. D. Francis, Sanitary Inspector.

I take this opportunity of placing on record my thanks to the Council for the help and support which has been given me throughout the year in the discharge of my duties.

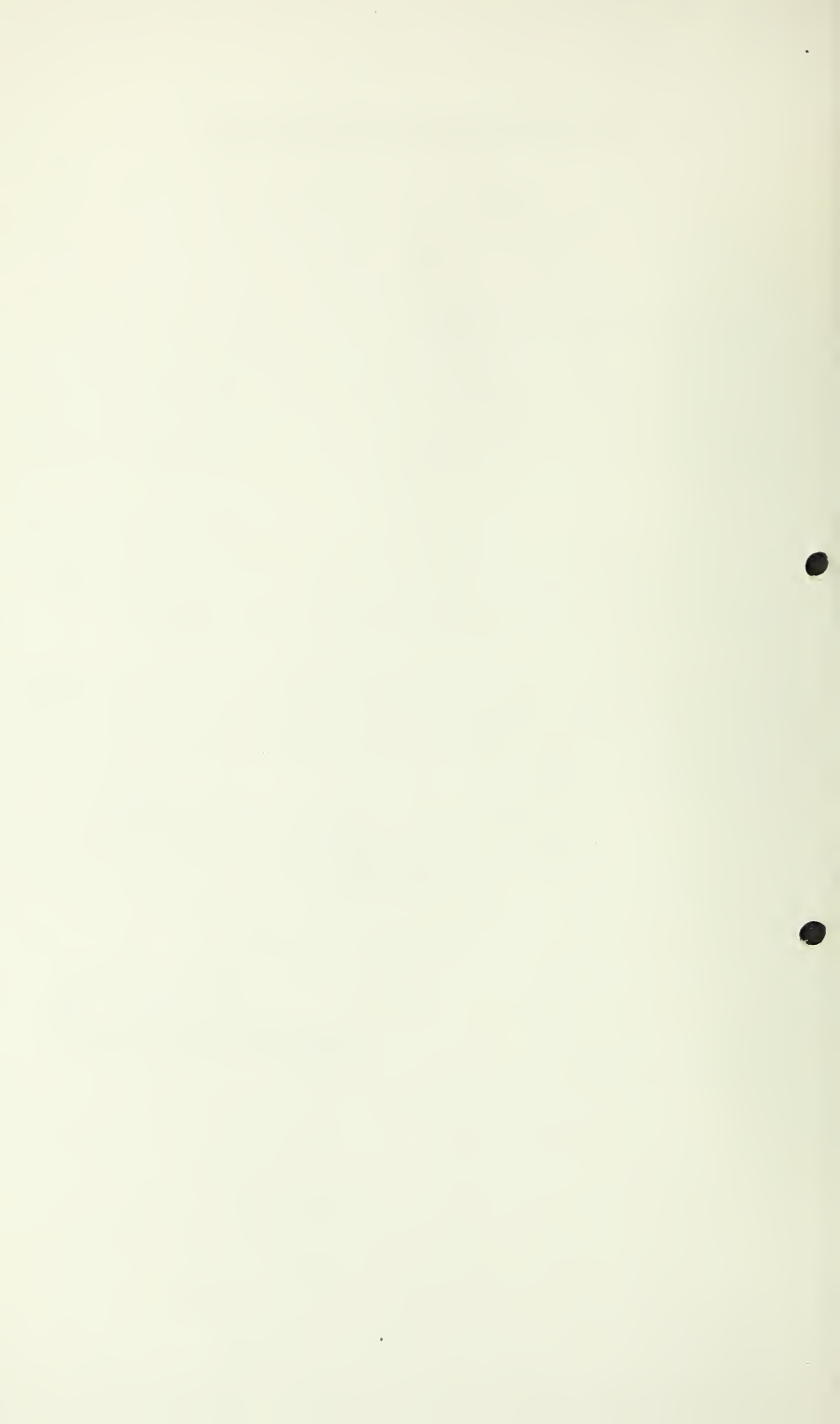
I have the honour to remain, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and  
Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant.

*William Hogg*

25th August, 1950.

Area Medical Officer of Health.



SECTION A. - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA:-

The District is entirely agricultural in character. There is much fine scenery especially in the west where the Black Mountains form an impressive boundary. The area appears to be less well known than parts of the County for the influx of summer visitors is not large.

Area In Acres	...	...	...	...	86,043
Number of Inhabited Houses on 31.12.49	...				2,477
Ratable Value	...	...	...	...	£24,744 - 5 - Od.
Registrar General's Estimated Resident Popn..					8,589.

EXTRACTS FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR:-

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population	...	20.5
Still birth Rate per 1,000 total births (live and still)	...	11.2
Death Rate per 1,000 of estimated resident population (crude).	...	10.9
Area Comparability Factor	...	0.89
Corrected death rate per 1,000 Resident Population	...	9.7

DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES:-

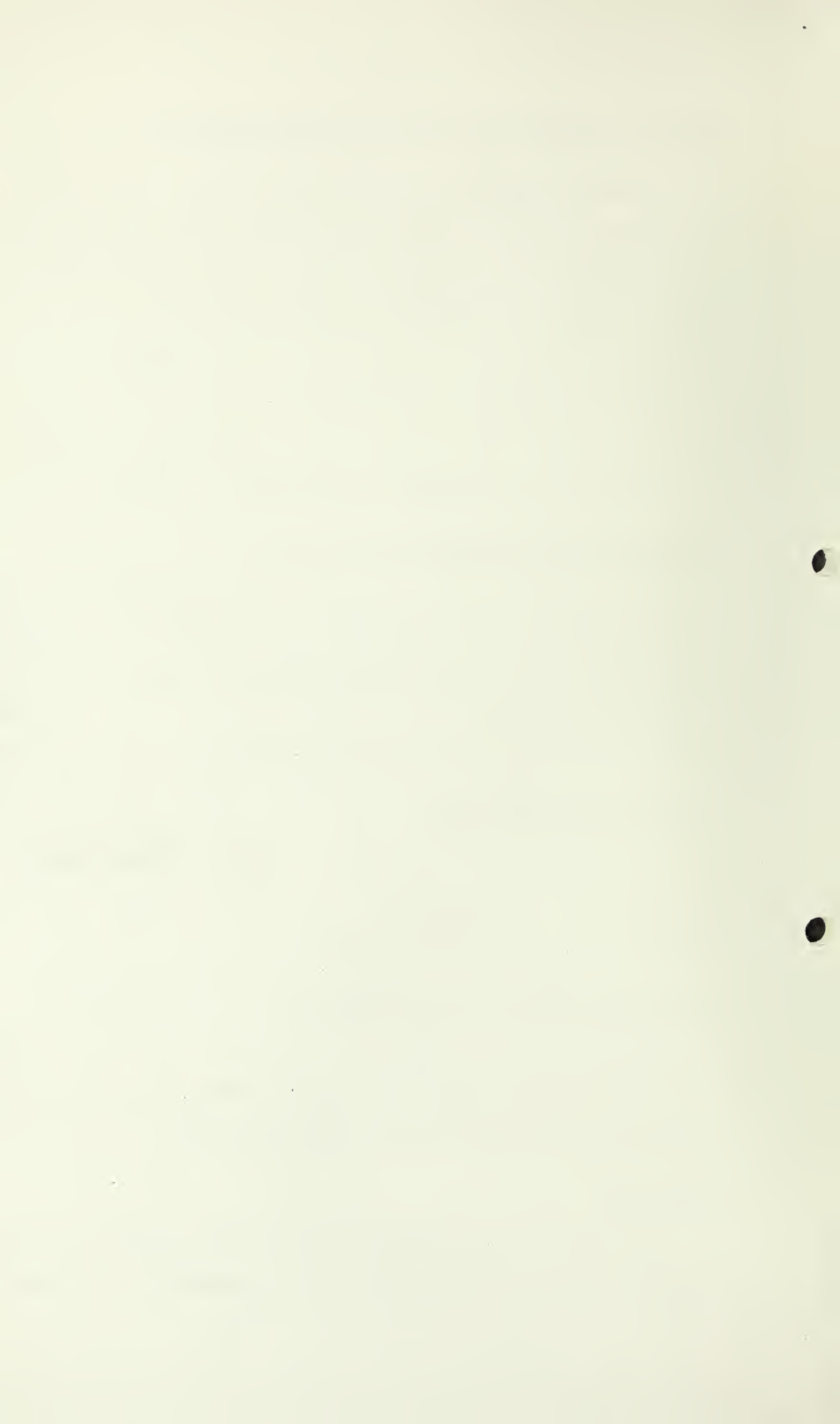
	<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Total Births Rate per 1,000</u>
Heading No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	-	-
Heading No. 30. Other Maternal Causes.	-	-

DEATH RATES OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:-

All Infants per 1,000 live births	...	34.1
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	...	30.9
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births..	...	71.4

POPULATION:-

The Registrar General's Estimate of the resident population is 8,589, which is an increase of 221 upon that of the previous year. The population



has shown some increase over a number of years, at the census of 1931 the figure was 7,898. The estimated average number of persons per occupied house figure was 3.48 and the estimated number of persons per acre is 0.099. The average number of occupied dwellings per acre is 0.028. The natural increase of population, that is the excess of live births over deaths is 82 which is an increase of 1 upon the figure recorded for the area in 1948.

BIRTHS:-

The total number of live births registered during the year was 176, (100 males and 76 females) giving a birth rate of 20.5 per 1,000 of the estimated resident population. This shows an increase upon the figure for the previous year which was 20.3 per 1,000 of the estimated population. The number of illegitimate births was 14 (9 males and 5 females). This figure is six less than the figure for 1948. The births which occurred out of wedlock formed 7.9% of the total live births.

STILLBIRTHS:-

The number of stillbirths registered is 2 (females) four less than the number registered in 1948. This gives a stillbirth rate of 0.23 per 1,000 resident population which compares with the rates for the year of England and Wales 0.39 per 1,000 population. If the number of stillbirths occurring is considered in relation to the total number of births it is found that the stillbirth rate is 11.2 per 1,000 total births.

DEATHS:-

The actual number of deaths recorded as having occurred within the area is, after the deduction of deaths of non-residents and addition of deaths of residents occurring outside the area, 94. This number is formed of 54 male deaths and 40 female deaths, and on the basis of the estimated



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population the crude death rate is 10.9 per 1,000 population. This rate is slightly higher than that for the previous year (10.6 per 1,000 population) when this rate is corrected, the adjusted death rate for the Rural District is 9.7 per 1,000 population. The death rate for England and Wales for the year under review is 11.7 per 1,000 total population.

The number of deaths during 1949, is 5 greater than the number which occurred in 1948. It will be noticed that the numbers of male deaths is slightly higher than the number of female deaths.

A table showing the principal causes of death according to sex and mortality is given on the following page.

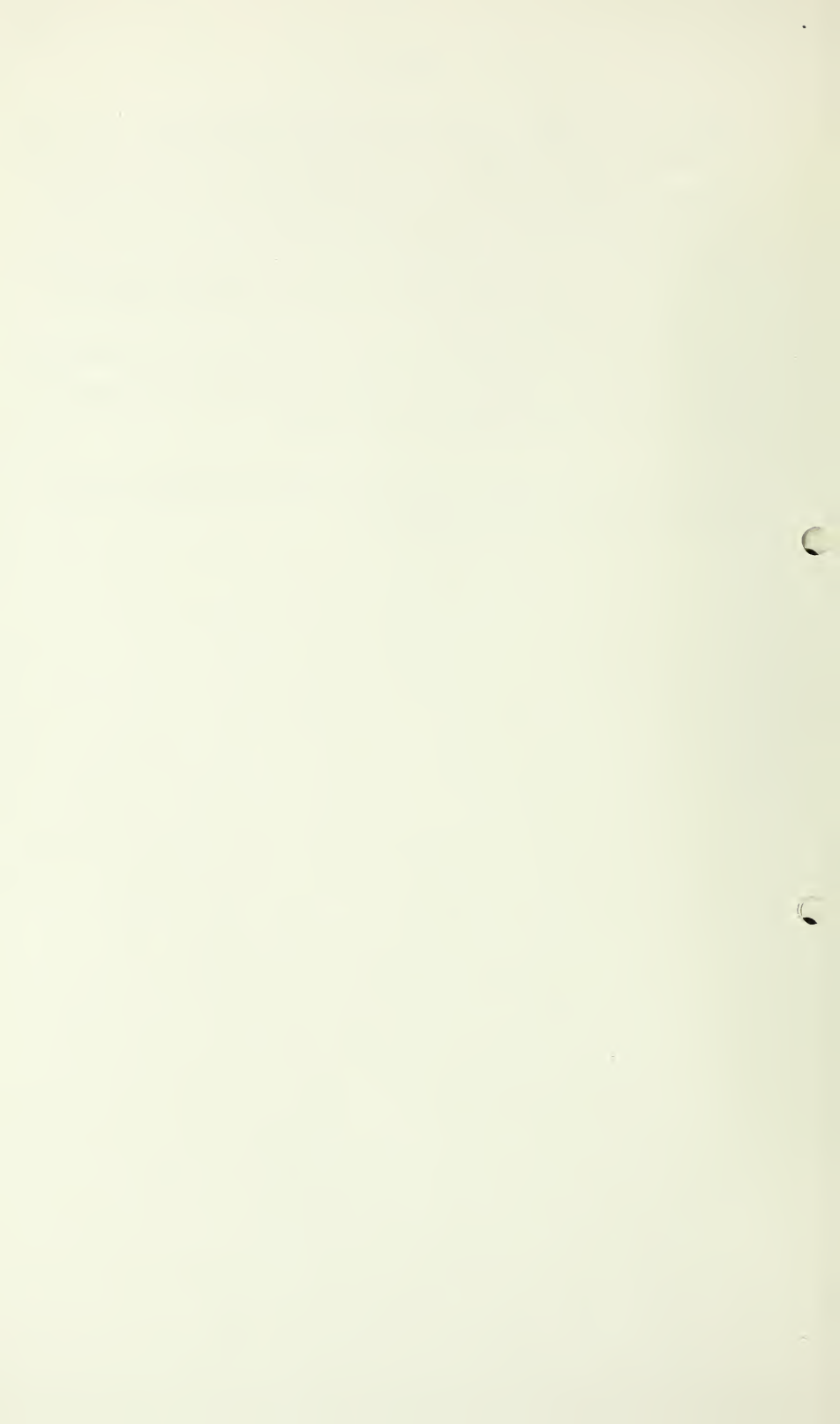


Table of Causes of Death According to Sex and  
Mortality Rates From Various Causes, for year 1949.

Heading No.	Cause.	Male.	Female.	Persons.	Death Rate per 1,000
7.	Other forms of Tuberculosis.	1	-	1	0.12
8.	Syphilitic Diseases.	2	-	2	0.23
9.	Influenza.	2	-	2	0.23
14.	Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum.	-	2	2	0.23
15.	Cancer of Breast.	-	1	1	0.12
16.	Cancer of All Other Sites.	6	1	7	0.82
17.	Diabetes.	-	1	1	0.12
18.	Intra-Cranial Vascular Lesions.	2	6	8	0.93
19.	Heart Diseases.	24	12	36	4.19
20.	Other diseases of the Circulatory System.	2	2	4	0.46
21.	Bronchitis.	1	1	2	0.23
22.	Pneumonia.	1	-	1	0.12
23.	Other Respiratory Diseases.	-	1	1	0.12
24.	Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum.	-	1	1	0.12
27.	Other digestive diseases.	-	3	3	0.35
28.	Nephritis.	1	-	1	0.12
31.	Premature Birth.	2	-	2	0.23
32.	Congenital Malformations, birth injury and infantile diseases.	2	2	4	0.46
34.	Road Traffic Accident.	1	-	1	0.12
35.	Other Violent Causes.	2	1	3	0.35
36.	All other Causes.	5	6	11	1.28
All Causes.		54	40	94	



The commonest cause of death, as usual is heart disease, accounting for 36 deaths (24 males and 12 females) giving a death rate from this cause of 4.19 per 1,000 population. Heart disease therefore accounted for 38.3% of all the deaths in the Rural District, and if this cause is examined according to sex 44.5% of male deaths and 30% of female deaths are included in this cause. In 1948, 28% of the deaths were due to disease of the heart.

#### Cancer Deaths:-

Apart from the mixed group No. 36, All Other Causes, Cancer of all sites (heading Nos. 14, 15, and 16) is the second most frequent cause of death, giving rise to 10 deaths (6 males and 4 females) with a death rate from this cause of 1.16 per 1,000 population. These figures are very close to those of the previous year when 10 deaths from cancer of all sites gave a death rate of 1.1 per thousand population.

#### Infantile Deaths:-

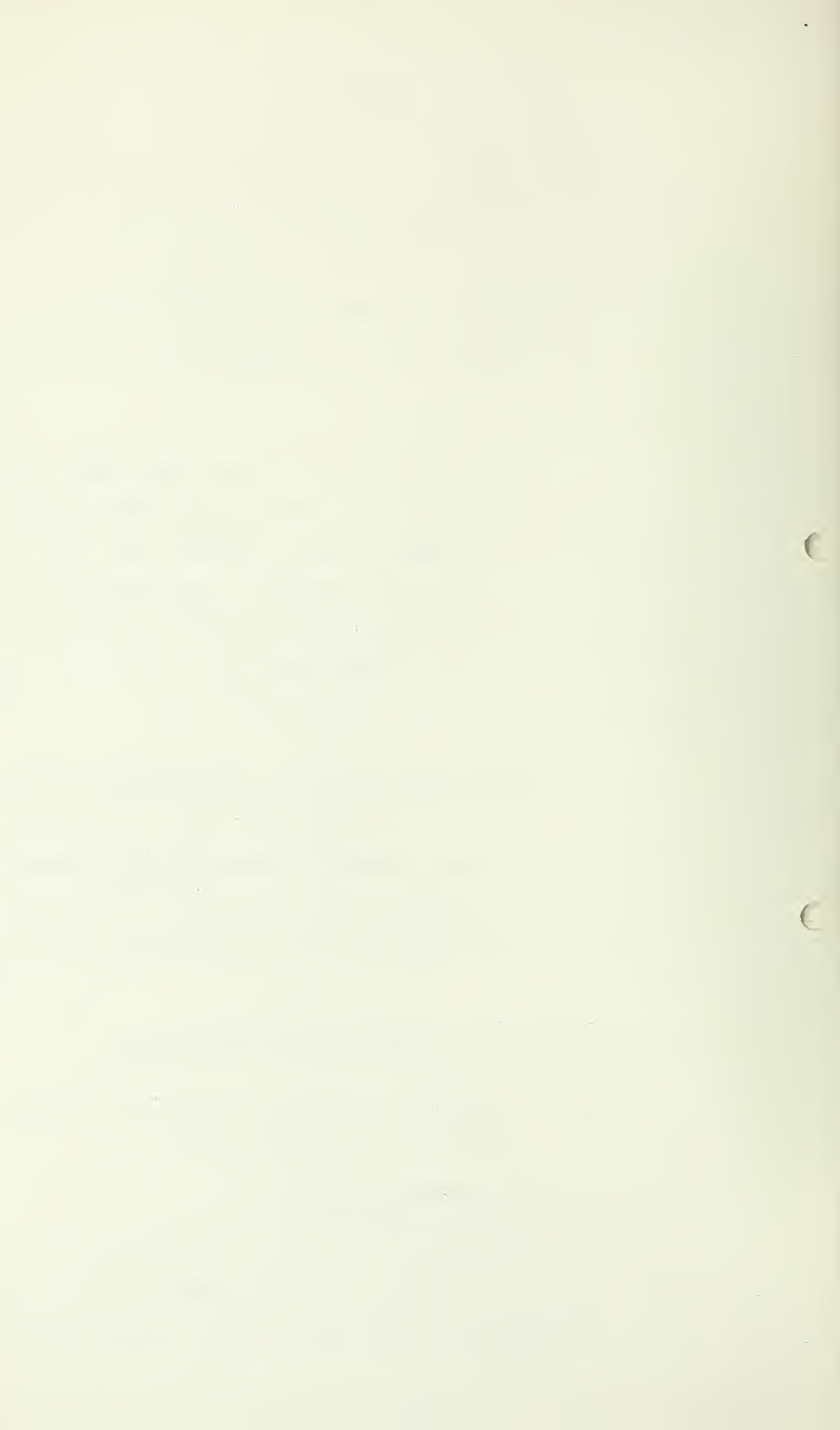
The number of infants under one year of age who died is 6 (3 males and 3 females), of these one is an illegitimate infant. The infant mortality rate for the Rural District is, therefore 34.1 per 1,000 live births - the figure for England and Wales for the year is 32 per 1,000 live births. The local rate shows a fall on comparison with the rate for 1948, when it was 35.1 per 1,000 live births.

#### Deaths due to Diarrhoea in Children Under Two Years of Age:-

No deaths are attributed to diarrhoea in children under two years of age; the death rate from this cause is therefore nil.

#### Deaths from Notifiable Infectious Disease:-

Pneumonia is the only notifiable infectious disease which is recorded as having caused the death of one male. The death rate from this cause is 0.12 per 1,000 population - a rate lower than that for England and Wales which was 0.15 per 1,000 population.



of 0.80 per 1,000 population. In 1948, five deaths were attributed to pneumonia and the death rate from this cause for that year is 0.6 per 1,000 population.

Tuberculosis:-

The only death occurring due to tuberculosis was a female death from the non-pulmonary form of the disease. The local death rate from tuberculosis is 0.12 per 1,000 population which is to be compared with the rate for England and Wales for the year of 0.45 per 1,000 population.

In the previous year, six deaths were caused by tuberculosis and the death rate for the Rural District for that year was 0.7 per 1,000 population.



SECTION B. - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA:-

Laboratory Facilities:-

Facilities for laboratory investigations are provided by the Public Health Laboratory at the County Offices, Hereford. This is of great value to the Department in the investigation of many matters affecting Public Health.

The following table shows the number of examinations carried out by the Laboratory at the request of your Department:-

Specimens Examined.

Swabs	...	...	...	...	...	21
Sputa	...	...	...	...	...	5
Faeces	...	...	...	...	...	11
Milk	...	...	...	...	...	111
Water (Bacteriological)	...	...	...	...	...	47
Water (Chemical)	...	...	...	...	...	1

Hospitals:-

The needs of the population are met by the Hospitals in the City of Hereford. Accommodation for cases of infectious disease is available at the Stretton Sugwas Hospital. These hospitals are vested in the Regional Hospital Board.

Ambulance:-

The ambulances in the City of Hereford are used to meet the requirements of the inhabitants of the District. Transport of cases of infectious disease is provided by the ambulance stationed at the Stretton Sugwas Hospital.

National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 50:-

No burials were carried out by the Council under this section during the year.



SECTION C. - SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA:-Water:-

As the area is a large Rural District, the water supplies are provided mainly by small separate sources. Many dwellings depend upon private shallow wells. In addition there are a number of small private piped schemes and piped supplies provided by the Rural District Council in the parishes of Longtown, Clifford, and Dorstone. The Council continued the management of the water scheme installed at the former Madley R.A.F. establishment which gives a piped supply of potable water in Kingstone and Madley and also supplies part of the Hereford Rural District.

This system uses water from the River Wye which is chemically treated and chlorinated. The pumping station lies within the boundary of the Hereford Rural District. It provides water of potable quality for the use of persons who are living in the former R.A.F. buildings, and other dwellings and premises in the vicinity. Towards the end of the year, the Council came to an agreement with the Hereford Rural District Council for the formation of a Joint Water Board to manage this supply.

The piped schemes in the parishes of Clifford, Dorstone and Longtown utilise springs arising upon high ground and feed the main systems by gravitation. No purification plant is necessary for any of these small schemes, each of which supplies a portion of the parish.

The Following table gives the number of dwellings supplied from public water mains:-

<u>Parish.</u>	<u>Number of Domestic Supplies.</u>					
Clifford	...	...	...	...	...	91
Dorstone	...	...	...	...	...	41
Longtown	...	...	...	...	...	62
Madley.	...	...	...	...	...	351

The water of the Clifford scheme is somewhat peaty, but none of the



waters used for domestic supply within the area appear to have any appreciable effect upon metals, and watermains are usually of iron. There are three stand-pipes in use on the Clifford scheme.

During the year, shortage of water was still experienced in Clifford parish, although an additional storage tank of 20,000 gallons capacity was installed some time ago. For a time it appeared to improve the supplies but subsequent shortage showed that there was a significant fall in the amount of water collected. An additional spring was brought into the collecting system.

In addition to these piped schemes provided by the Local Authority, there are a number of other small piped schemes owned by private owners. A list of the more important of these was given in the Annual Report for, 1938. Eleven new small piped schemes were constructed by private persons.

Generally speaking, the area is not adequately supplied with water, and shortage of water in parts of the area does occur during the summer months. Shenmore, Madley, Abbeydore and Clifford were affected this way. Owing to technical defects in the pumping plant, Madley mains failed at one time, and the system is non tee reliable.

There are numerous private wells which serve as supplies for one or two dwellings not without some success as regards the quantity of water available.

Owing to the very large number of water supplies in use throughout the Rural District, it is very difficult to exercise control of the quality of water consumed for potable and other purposes. All the piped supplies provided by the Local Authority give water of good potable quality. The small piped schemes in the hands of private owners, are, generally speaking of reasonable potable quality. The quality of the water yielded by the numerous individual wells and springs is of variable quality.



Towards the end of the year, a deterioration of the quality of the water supplied to the R.A.F. mains in Kingstone and Madley parishes was detected. Technical difficulties at the pumping station were contributory. The Council is faced with difficulty in exercising control over this supply and the present position needs trial before the efficiency of control can be estimated.

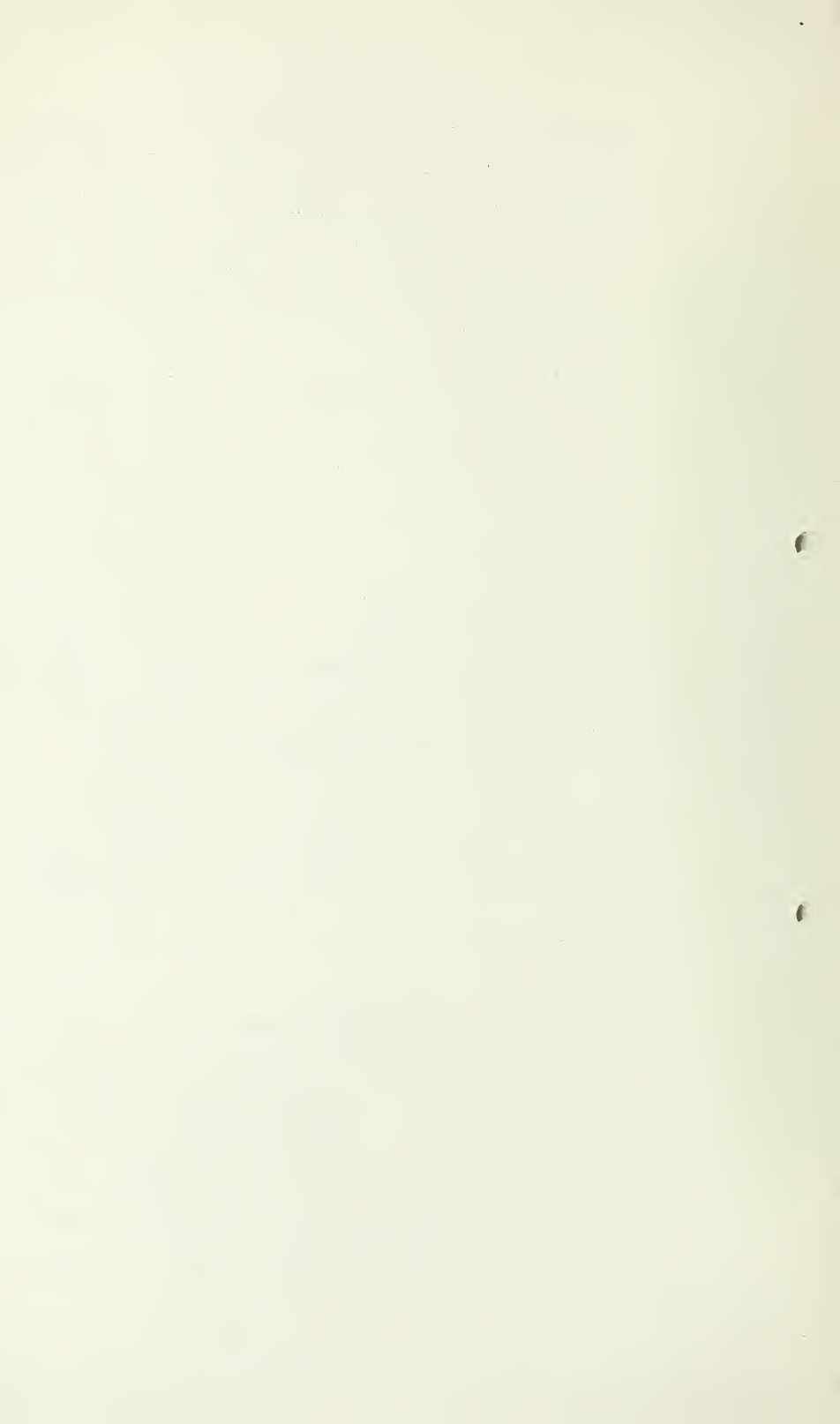
This supply is the only water supply within the area to which purification treatment is given, this is because the untreated water is River Water. No samples were taken from the river water as samples taken at various points during the past have shown the Wye water to be of the usual character of such rivers. However, 12 samples of the treated water were submitted for bacteriological examination and 11 were of good potable standard, and one could not be regarded as of potable quality as it showed some deterioration of the usual high standard. One sample of this water was taken from a tap and sent to the Public Analyst for chemical examination, this showed an excess of free chlorine.

#### Geology:-

The whole of the area is formed of the old red sandstone of the Devonian System.

#### Drainage and Sewerage:-

There are no public sewers within the Rural District. In the parishes of Kingstone and Madley a system of sewers constructed during the War in connection with the R.A.F. establishment remained unchanged. The Council continued the management of the sewage disposal works receiving the effluent of these sewers. The works are of considerable size and contain settlement tanks, rotary biological filters and sludge tanks. The flow of sewage at present being dealt with is well within the capacity of the works.



Fifty six new drains were constructed for dwelling houses, and 40 for other premises. The number of existing drains repaired or reconstructed was 6. The number of drain tests carried out by the Sanitary Inspector was 96.

#### Rivers and Streams:-

The Rural District contains and is bounded by a number of rivers. The River Wye in the north forms part of the boundary of the area as it flows from Hay to Clifford and then to Bredwardine. This stretch is remarkable for the beauty of the scenery.

In the west of the area the River Monnow rises above Craswall and follows a roughly south-easterly course. It passes Llanveynoe, Longtown and Walterstone, turns eastward to Monmouth Gap where it is joined by its tributary the river Dore, which has flowed down the Golden Valley. The Monnow then pursues a winding course until Kentchurch is reached where it leaves the boundary of the District on its way down to Monmouth. The course of the River Monnow within the District measures several miles.

The Eskley Brook has its source above Michael church and flows in a direction parallel to the upper course of the Monnow which it joins below Longtown. Still further to the east, the small Dulas Brook follows a <sup>SIMILAR</sup> circular course and joins the River Dore at Pontrilas. The River Dore originates above Peterchurch and is famous in legend. It follows a similar south easterly course to Vowchurch passing Abbeydore. After its union with the Dulas Brook it joins the Monnow in the vicinity of Kentchurch.

So far as these rivers are related to the District, they form a group of rural streams, unsuitable for navigation and quite clean.

#### Closet Accommodation:-

The principal type of closet in use within the area is the pail closet but the privy is found only slightly less frequently. Efforts



to secure conversions continued throughout the year, 8 privies were converted to pail closets. A further 26 privies were converted to water closets and 12 pail closets were converted to Water Closets. There remains ample scope for further conversions, for many years, owing to the few piped water schemes the opportunity of conversion is very limited. In the course of the year 86 new Water Closets were provided at the Madley camp.

#### Public Cleansing:-

The Council does not undertake the collection and disposal of domestic or trade refuse, nor does it carry out the cleansing of cesspools and privies. Some difficulty with regard to the indiscriminate disposal of domestic refuse, arises from time to time. In the former Madley R.A.F. Station a relatively large number of persons live and a significant amount of domestic refuse arises. In the absence of a regular system of collection this area is rapidly becoming covered with accumulations of refuse. It is essential to prevent injury to health for a regular collection to be commenced at the earliest moment.

#### Shops and Offices:-

No formal action was necessary under the Public Health Act, 1936, but 26 inspections of these premises were made during the year.

#### Swimming Baths and Pools:-

There are no swimming baths or pools open to the public on payment within the area.

#### Camping Sites:-

The District contains much wonderful scenery, for the Black Mountains form the western boundary, and the area is a land of silver rivers and border castles, rich in legend and in historical associations.



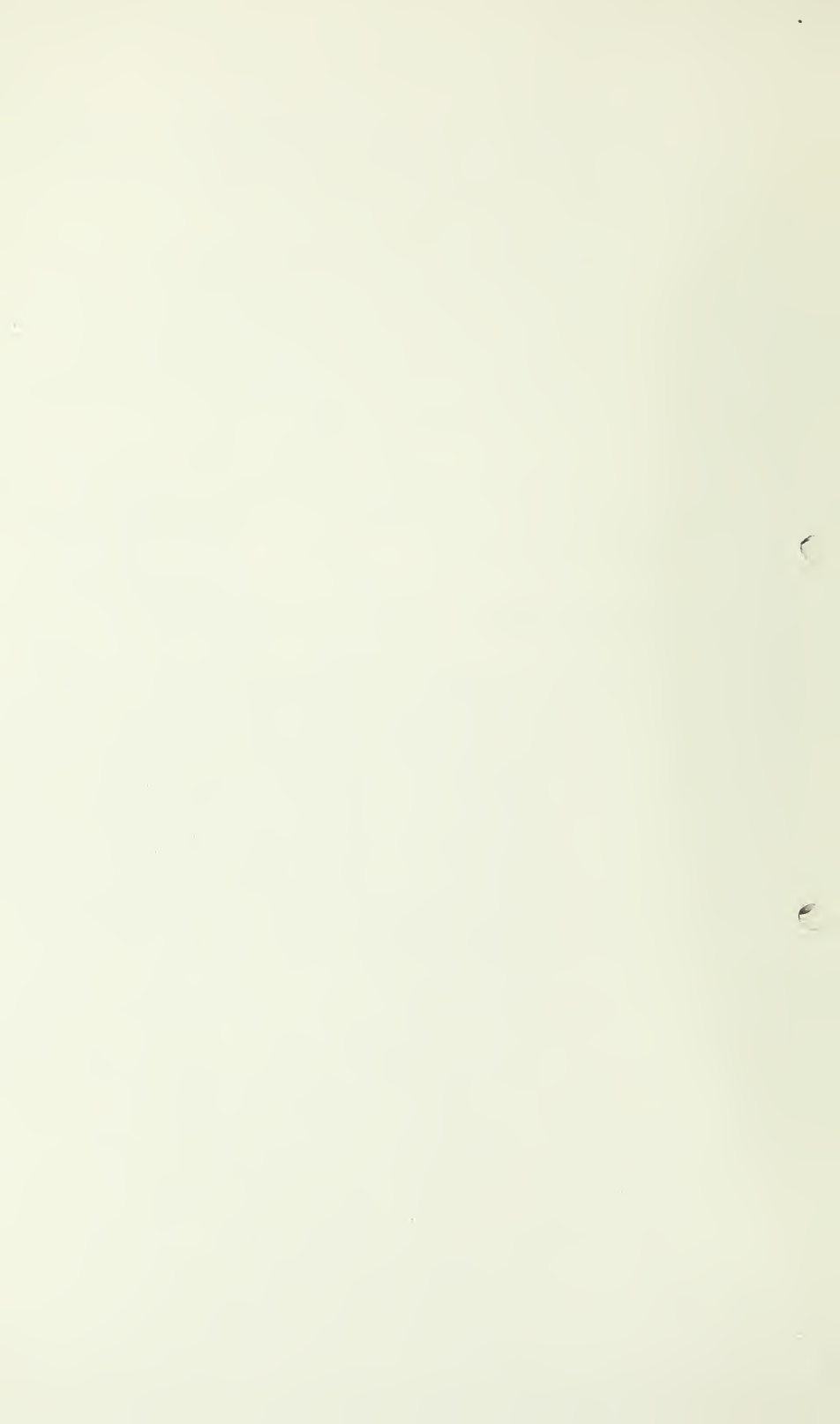
Nevertheless, it does not appear to be so attractive to campers as some other areas, and camping constitutes no significant public health problem at the present time.

Two sites were used for camping purposes during 1949, the maximum number of campers present within the area on any one day is estimated at 60 persons which is an increase on the number for the previous year. No licences were issued by the Council with respect to camping sites under Section 269 of the Public Health Act, 1936.

Two harvest camps were provided and maintained by the County Agricultural Executive Committee. These were very satisfactory and required the minimum of supervision.

#### Eradication of Bed-Bugs:-

No dwellings were found to be infested with bed bugs. When such infestations have been discovered it is the usual practice of the Council to call upon the Sanitary Inspector to spray the premises with the insecticide known as Zaldicide or other similar preparations. Whilst this method may not be quite so certain as the use of hydrogen cyanide, it is attended by little risk to life. Hydrogen cyanide being a very poisonous gas, great care and skill is necessary in its use for the disinfection purposes, if this is to be done without endangering life.



SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA:-

I am indebted to Mr. D.J. Francis, Sanitary Inspector to the Council for the following tabular statement, furnished under Article 27 (18) of the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations, 1935.

Inspections:-

Accumulations	...	...	...	...	...	16
Animals	...	...	...	...	...	56
Ashbins and Ashpits..	...	...	...	...	...	26
Bakehouses...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Caravans	...	...	...	...	...	Nil.
Cowsheds and Dairies.	...	...	...	...	...	211
Drainage	...	...	...	...	...	126
Drain Tests..	...	...	...	...	...	96
Filthy and Verminous Premises	...	...	...	...	...	3
Filthy and Verminous Persons.	...	...	...	...	...	3
Factories (without mechanical power).	...	...	...	...	...	20
Factories (with mechanical power)	...	...	...	...	...	13
Fruit and Hop-pickers Quarters	...	...	...	...	...	16
Ice Cream (registered premises)	...	...	...	...	...	8
Infectious Disease...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Public Conveniences..	...	...	...	...	...	40
Schools	...	...	...	...	...	16
Shops (Shops Act, 1934)	...	...	...	...	...	26
Unsound Food	...	...	...	...	...	27
Water Supply	...	...	...	...	...	59
Work Places	...	...	...	...	...	13
Housing (Consolidated Regulations, 1925)	...	...	...	...	...	207
Housing (Other)	...	...	...	...	...	100

Notices Issued:-

Informal	...	...	...	...	...	58
Statutory re housing.	...	...	...	...	...	2
Statutory Under Other Acts...	...	...	...	...	...	4



Summary of Defects Remedied:-

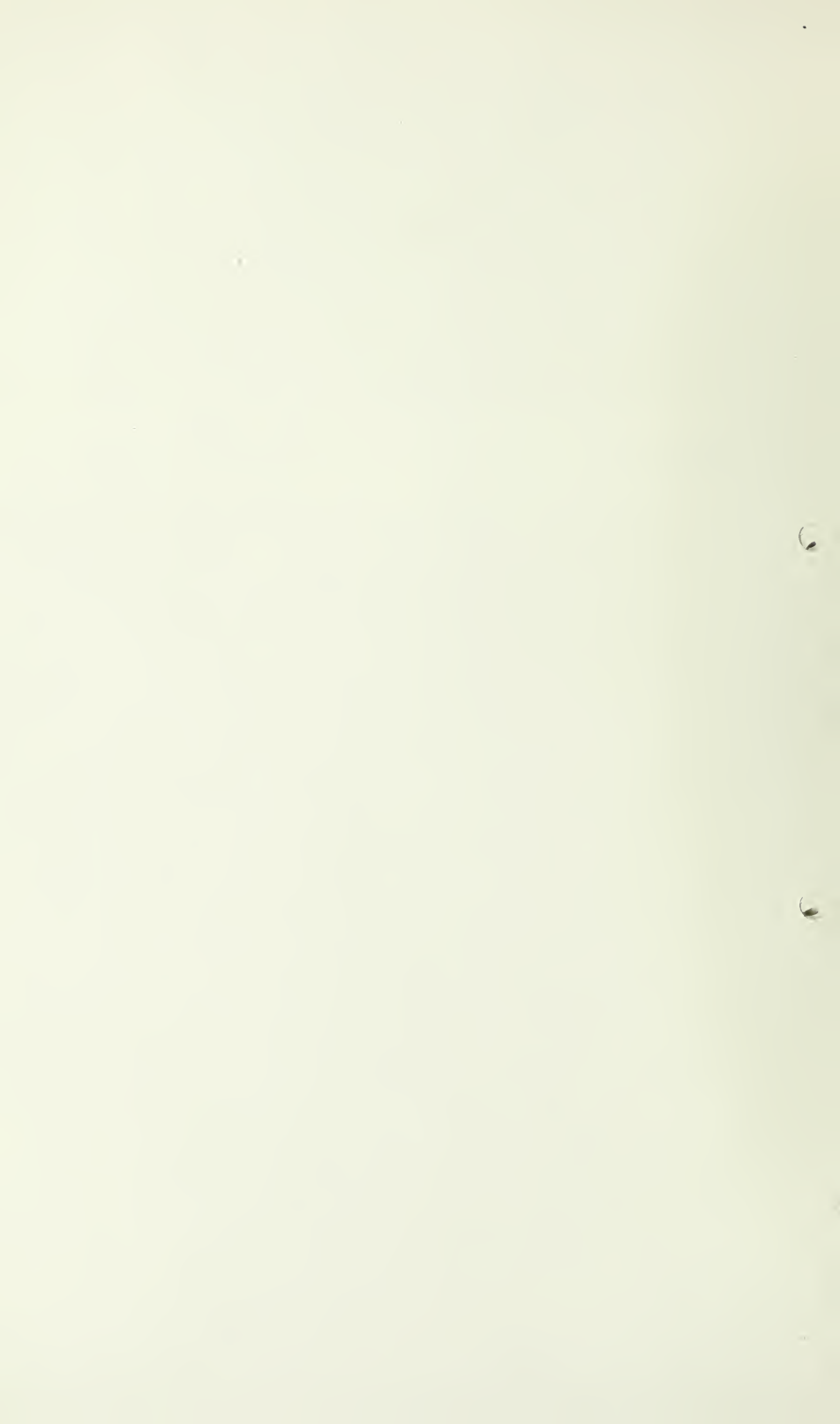
Ashbins Provided	...	...	...	Nil
Accumulations Removed	...	...	...	2
Ditches Cleared	...	...	...	12
Drains and Gullies Cleared	...	...	...	28
Drains Repaired	...	...	...	32
Drains Reconstructed	...	...	...	1
New Drains Provided	...	...	...	96
Defective Floors Repaired	...	...	...	5
Defective Roofs Repaired.	...	...	...	18
Defective Eaves and Gutters Repaired	...	...	...	18
Defective Brickwork Repaired	...	...	...	18
Defective Coppers Remedied	...	...	...	3
Disinfections after Infectious Disease...	...	...	...	24
Defective Windows Repaired	...	...	...	18
Defective Chimneys Repaired	...	...	...	11
Dampness of Walls and Floors Remedied	...	...	...	9
Closets Repaired	...	...	...	21
Cowsheds and Dairies Reconstructed	...	...	...	12
Cowsheds and Daires Improved	...	...	...	4
Filthy and Verminous Premises Cleansed...	...	...	...	3
New Gullies Provided	...	...	...	16
Gully Covers Provided	...	...	...	2
Inspection Chambers Repaired	...	...	...	24
Inspection Chambers Provided	...	...	...	62
Old Drains Sealed	...	...	...	29
Privies Converted to Pail Closets	...	...	...	8
Pail Closets Converted to Water Closets..	...	...	...	12
Privies Converted to Water Closets	...	...	...	26



Rain Water Pipes Provided or Repaired	...	...	...	11
New Sinks Provided	...	...	...	43
Soil Pipes Repaired	...	...	...	11
Sanitary Fittings Provided	...	...	...	60
New Urinals Provided...	...	...	...	1
Urinals Repaired	...	...	...	1
Wells Cleansed or Repaired	...	...	...	Nil.
MISCELLANEOUS DEFECTS REMEDIED	...	...	...	421

Factories:-

There are twenty factories without mechanical power and thirteen with mechanical power registered with the Council. The number of inspections made was 34 and one defect - lack of cleanliness was remedied during the year by informal action.



Factory Form 572. (Revised).

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health, in Respect of the year 1949 for the Rural District of Dore and Bredwarding, in the County of Herefordshire.

Part 1. of the Act.

Inspections for purposed of provisions as to health including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors.

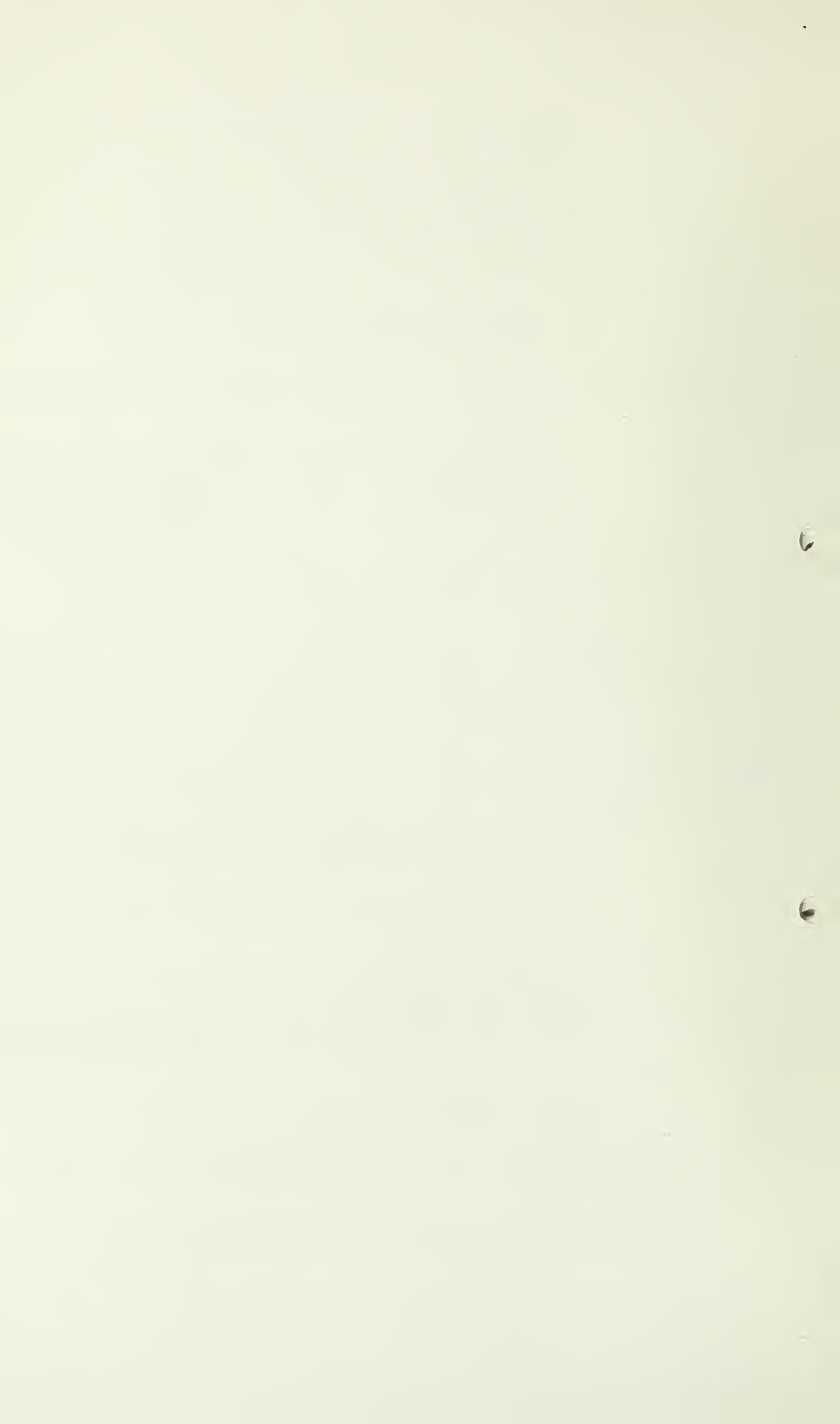
Premises.	Number on Register.	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Occupiers Prosecuted.
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority.	20	34	-	-
Factories not included in 1. in which Section 7. is enforced by the Local Authority.	13	-	-	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority, excluding outworkers premises.	-	-	-	-
TOTAL.	33	34	-	-

## Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars.	Found.	Remedied		Number of cases prosecutions were instituted.
		By.H.M.I.	To. H.M.I.	
Want of Cleanliness.	1	1	-	-
TOTAL	1	1	-	-

Outworkers:-

There are no out workers registered with the Local Authority.



SECTION D. - HOUSING:-

Progress of the Council's building programme, for the provision of new dwellings continued to make slow progress, although 8 new dwellings were completed by the end of the year. These are distributed in three parishes, two being situated in Ewyas Harold, four in Clifford, and two in Orcop. In addition to these completed dwellings, two Council Houses were under construction in Ewyas Harold but were incomplete at the end of the year.

This somewhat slow progress may be attributed to a number of causes. The nature of the area is not favourable to speedy erection of buildings, it contains many hills and roads are frequently long and difficult. Suitable building sites are not easily obtained, the inadequacy of water supplies being particularly prone to cause difficulty.

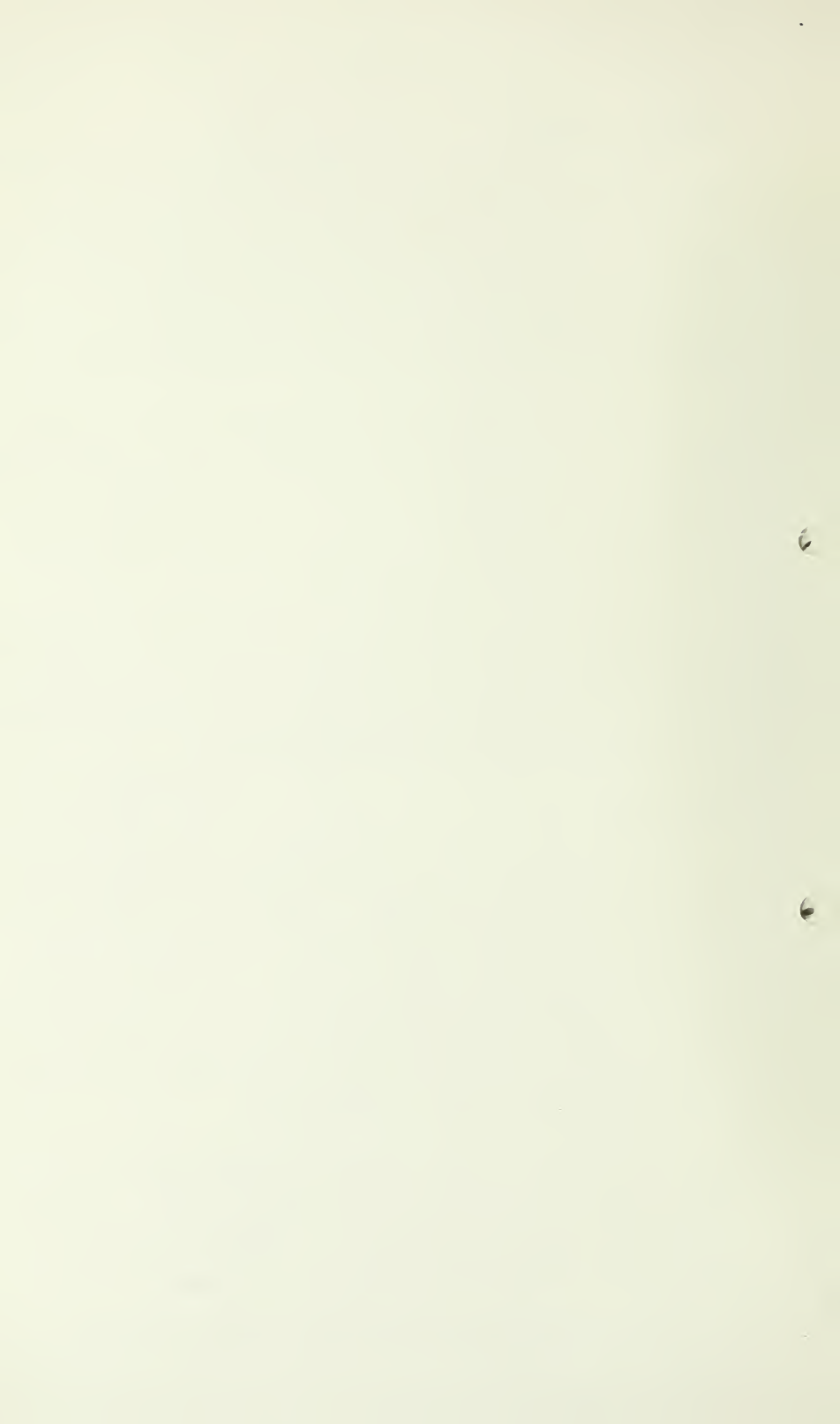
Private persons, by the erection of dwellings, made slight contribution to the housing accommodation by completing one dwelling in Cusop parish, whilst one new house was under construction in Clifford, and one in Madley, and a further pair being under construction in Kentchurch.

Madley R.A.F.:-

The old buildings in this former R.A.F. establishment continued to be occupied throughout the year by homeless families, and at the end of the year families comprising about 1,000 persons were accommodated. Further dilapidation occurred in many of these buildings, and measures to protect the inhabitants from the weather proved somewhat costly and ineffective. The fact is, that these buildings are approaching the end of their usefulness and must be replaced by dwellings of orthodox type.

A serious effort was made by the Council to improve conditions in a number of ways on this large estate of temporary habitations. The absence of a systematic collection of domestic refuse continued to cause anxiety, this will not be removed until an efficient collection is in operation.

A number of families were allowed to move into less dilapidated



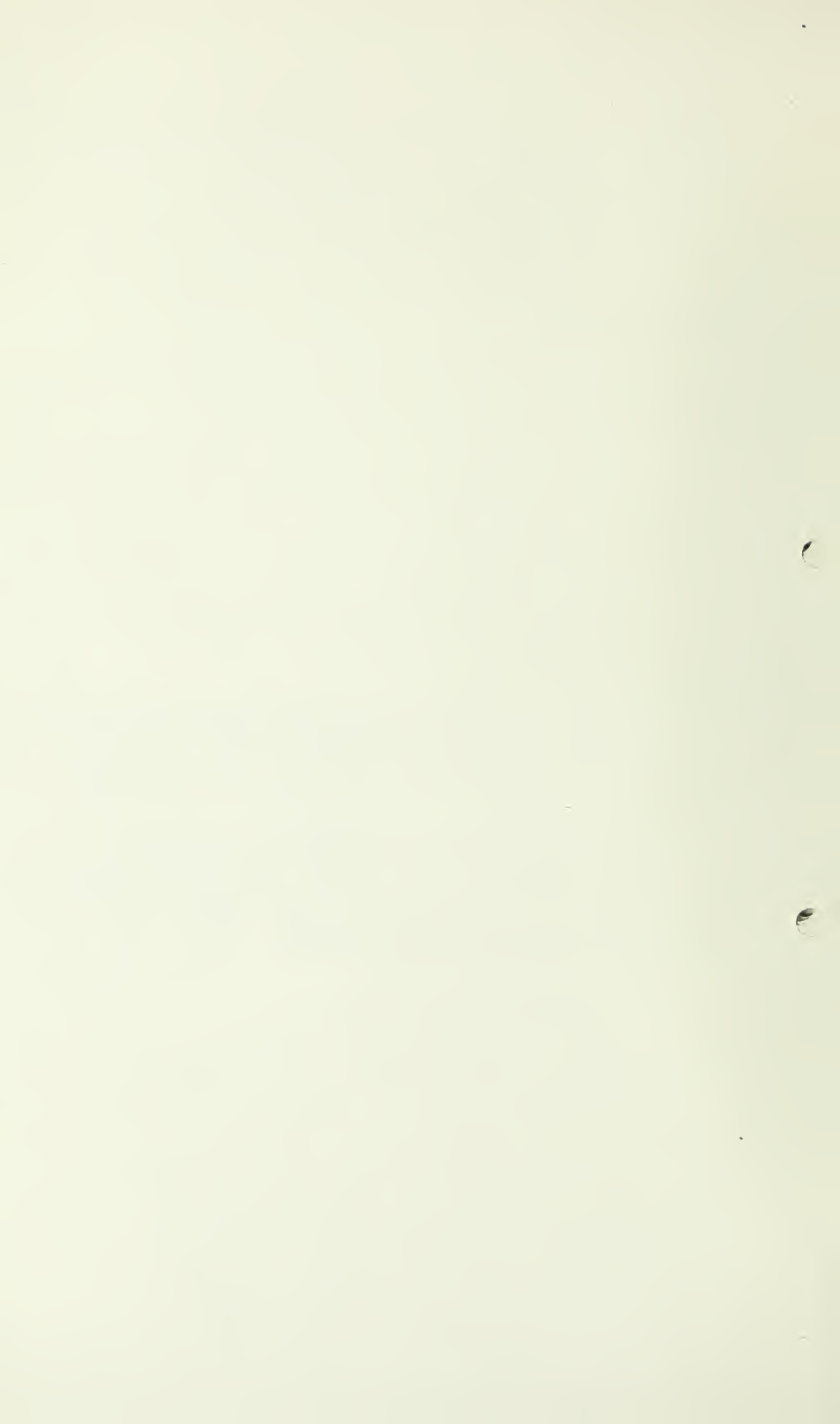
buildings and these latter, being beyond further use as habitations, were then dismantled. With regard to some of the buildings of a more permanent nature, the work of conversion into improved dwellings continued, buildings of this nature when converted provided moderately satisfactory accommodation. In addition the Council provided cooking stoves and closets in a number of these temporary dwellings.

The Management of the Estate continued in the hands of Mr. Peers, who continued to handle the many problems which arose with tact and efficiency.

It is doubtful if much in the way of further conversions can produce any significant improvement upon this estate, and the possibility of the use of some of the sites for the purpose of erection of new dwellings merits further consideration by the Council. Certain of these sites are provided with water supply, drainage and a roadway, which must have some value in connection with building.

It is obvious that a number of the existing buildings are rapidly becoming unfit for human habitation and new accommodation is required for a number of families.

Recent figures prepared by Mr. Williams the Rent Collector show that 200 families desire to reside in this area, and the provision of permanent dwellings for these residents is urgently necessary.



INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:-

1.	(a)	Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	207
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose.	307
2.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.	100
	(b)	Number of Inspections made for the purpose.	106
3.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation.	3
4.	(a)	Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.	14

REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICE:-

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers.	14
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ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:-

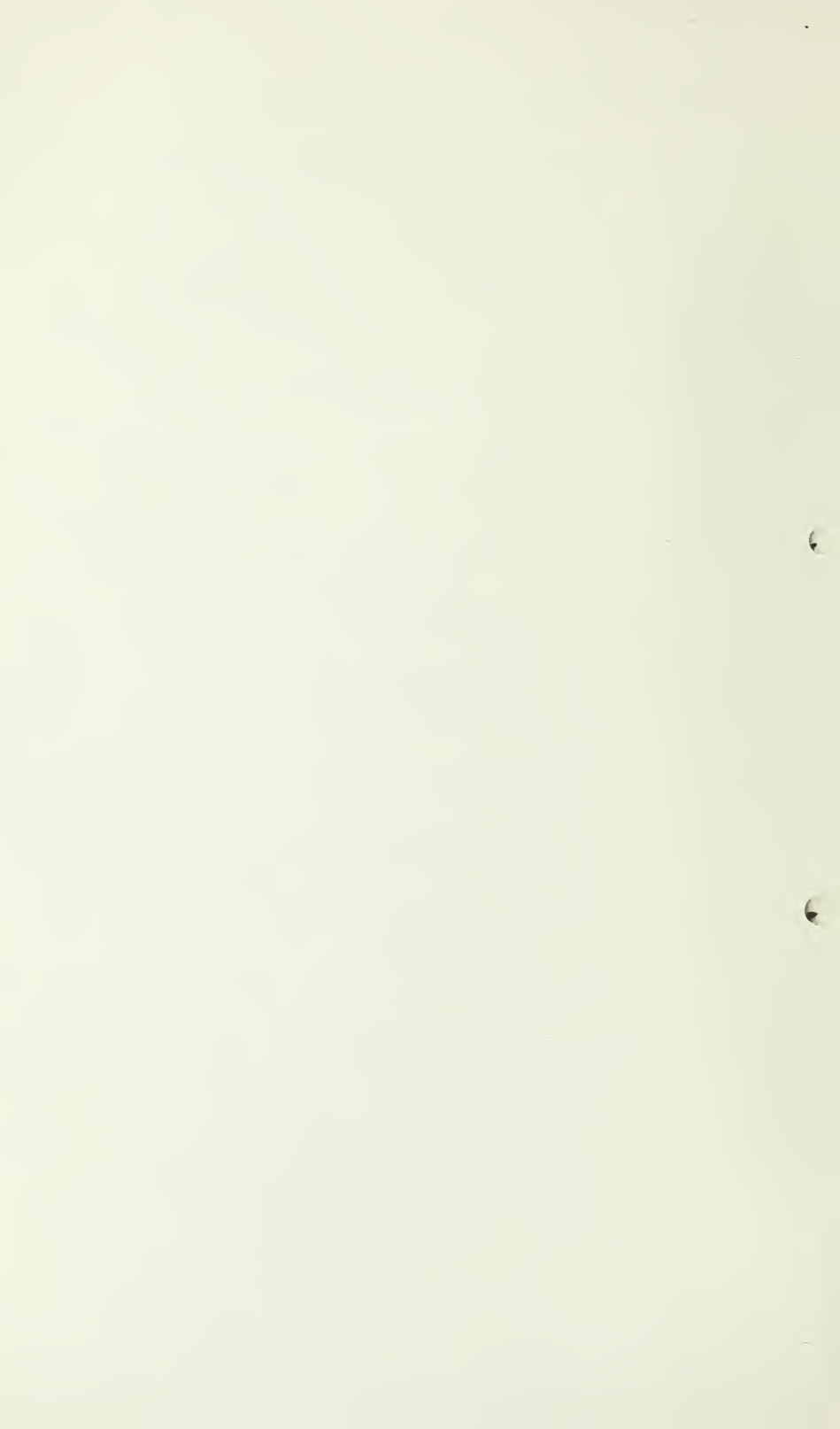
1.	Proceedings under Sections 9,10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.	
(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs.	1
(b)	Number of dwelling houses in which were rendered fit after service of formal notice.	
	(i) By Owners.	1
	(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners.	-

PROCEEDINGS UNDER PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS:-

(a)	Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	8
(b)	Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices.	
	(i) By Owners.	5
	(ii) By Local Authority in default of owners.	-

PROCEEDINGS UNDER SECTION 12 OF THE HOUSING ACT, 1936:-

(a)	Number of Separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit.	-
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HOUSING ACT, 1936, PART IV. - OVERCROWDING:-

1. (a)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at end of the year.	33
(b)	Number of families dwelling therein.	41
(c)	Number of persons dwelling therein.	198
2.	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year.	11
(a)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during year.	3
(b)	Number of persons concerned in such cases.	14

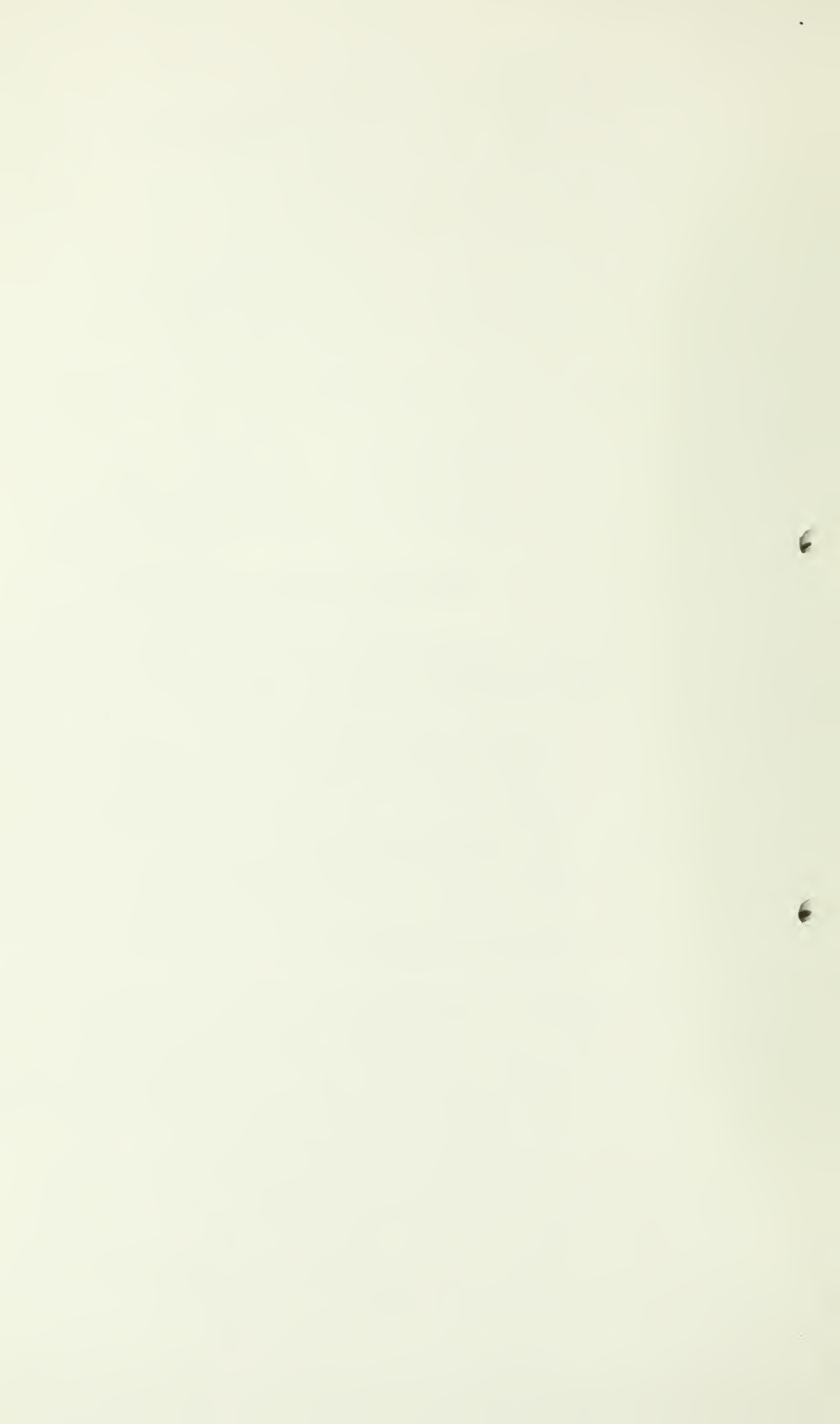
No dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken to secure abatement.

PROCEEDINGS UNDER THE HOUSING ACT, 1949:-

<u>Section 2.</u>	The number of demolition orders quashed as a result of the erection of works rendering dwellings fit for habitation.	Nil.
<u>Section 4.</u>	The number of new dwellings provided by the construction with the aid of money advanced by the Local Authority.	Nil.
	The number of new dwellings provided by the conversion of existing buildings with the aid of money advanced by the Local Authority.	Nil.
<u>Section 15.</u>	(a) The number of dwellings provided by the conversion of houses or other buildings.	80
	(b) The number of dwellings improved by the Local Authority.	Nil.
<u>Section 20.</u>	The number of grants made by the Local Authority for the provision of dwellings by conversion of buildings.	Nil.
	The number of grants made by the Local Authority for the improvement of dwellings.	Nil.

At the beginning of the year, there were 25 dwellings known to be overcrowded and during the year, 11 new cases came to the notice of the Department. However, it was possible to relieve 3 cases, so that the number of dwellings known to be overcrowded at the end of the year was 33.

It is impossible to keep informed of all the changes of occupancy which occur in the District, it may be that this figure somewhat under estimates the overcrowding position. However, the solution of this problem can rest only in the provision of new dwellings.



The District contains a significant number of dwellings which fall far short of modern housing standards, but little progress was made in bringing these up to a reasonable standard of fitness. The primary housing need of the area still appears to be the erection of new dwellings. With the passage of time and the continuance of difficult conditions in the building trades, the maintenance of houses in a reasonable state of repair remains a problem of some magnitude.

### Rural Housing Survey:-

The following table gives a summary of the position with respect to dwellings included in this survey.

Category 1.	...	...	...	...	...	234
" 2.	...	...	...	...	...	377
" 3.	...	...	...	...	...	241
" 4.	...	...	...	...	...	171
" 5.	...	...	...	...	...	61
<b>TOTAL</b>	...	...	...	...	...	1084



SECTION E. - INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD:-

Milk:-

At the beginning of the year, there were 392 purveyors of milk registered with the Council under the Milk and Dairies Order, 1949. However, on 1st October, three new Regulations came into operation, these are the Milk and Dairies Regulations, 1949; the Milk (Special Designation) (Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949 and the (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949. Very briefly the effect of these Regulations was the transfer of the supervision of milk producers to the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries leaving the supervision of milk distributors to the Council. At the end of the year, 2 milk distributors were registered with the Local Authority.

There are no plants for the pasteurisation of milk situated within the District, and no supplementary licences for the sale of pasteurised milk were issued by the Council. There was no evidence that any acute infectious diseases was caused by the consumption of milk sold within the area. No pasteurised or heat treated milk appears to be sold.

Ice-Cream:-

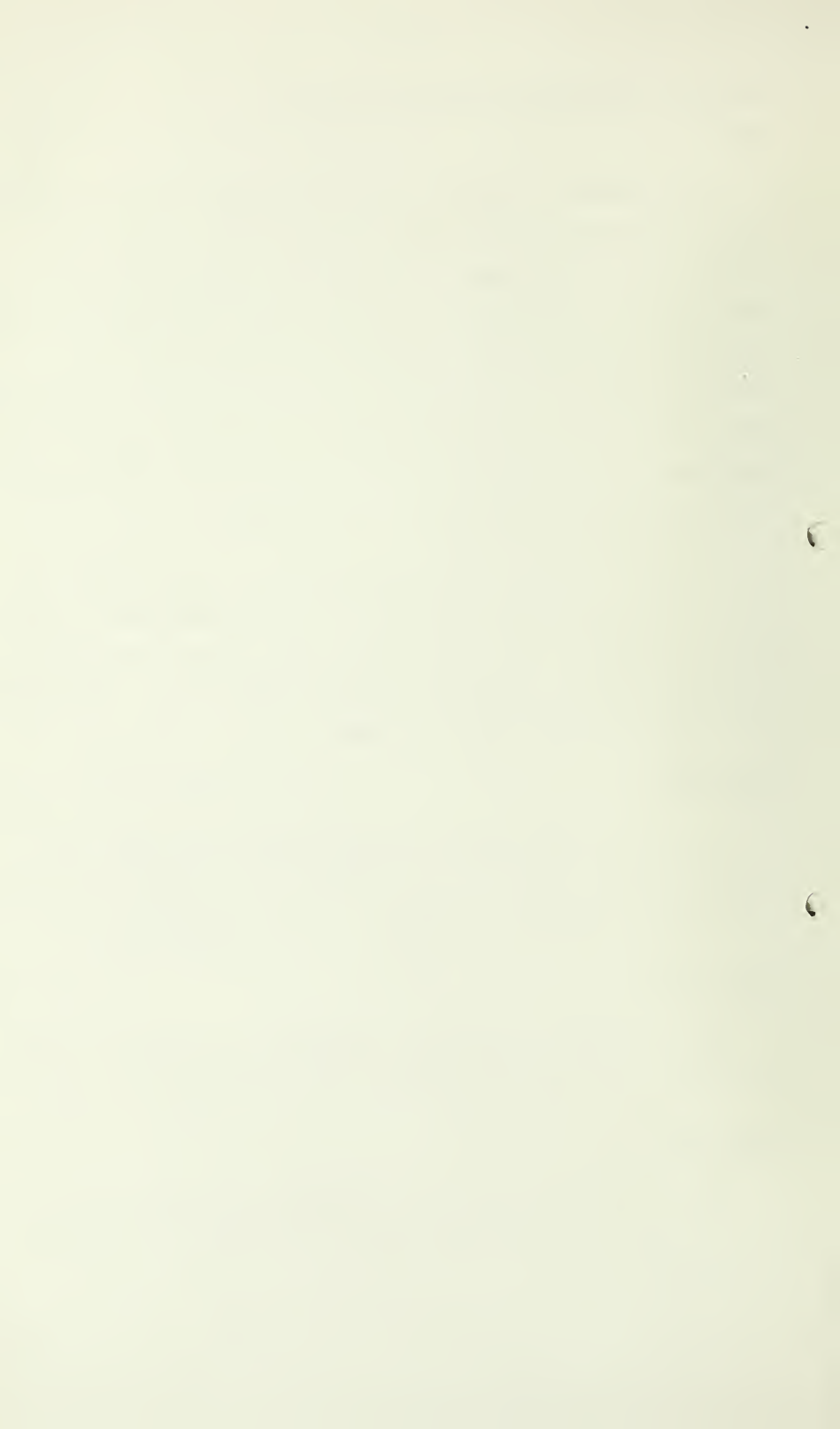
The sale of this food appears to be very limited, but one registration for the manufacture and two for the sale and storage of ice cream were granted by the Council. The number of inspections made of these premises was 8.

Water Cress:-

The sale of water cress appears to be insignificant as it grows naturally in the area. No action was required in connection with sales of this food.

Shell Fish:-

The sale of occasional jars or tins of preserved shell fish appears to embrace the sale of shell fish within the District. No action was necessary with regard to this food.



Meat:-

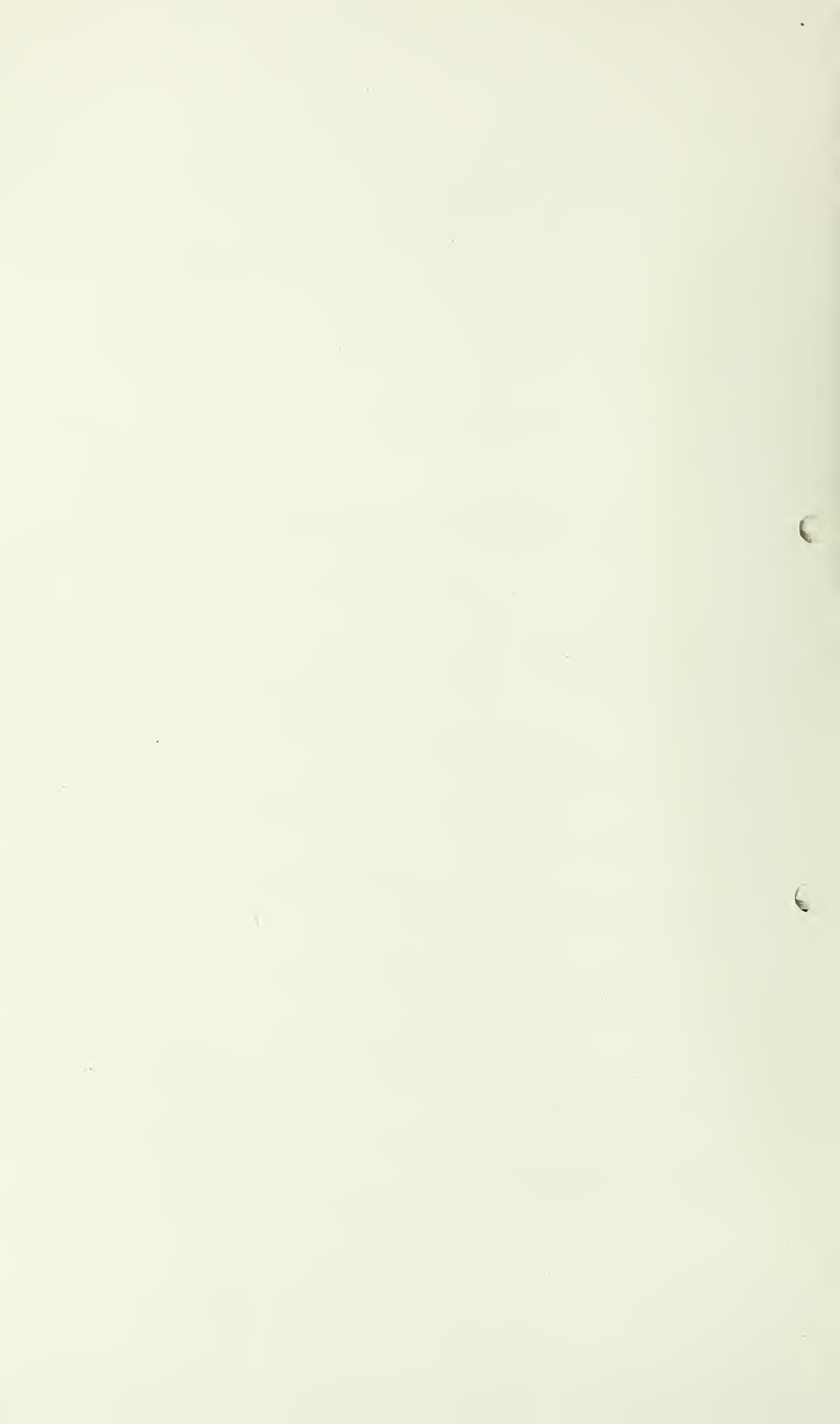
There are no slaughterhouses now in use within the District, as all meat is supplied from the Central Abattoirs. The inspection of meat is limited to that exposed for sale in butcher's shops and the Sanitary Inspector made 51 such inspections.

Food Poisoning:-

No notifications of food poisoning were received at any time during the year.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

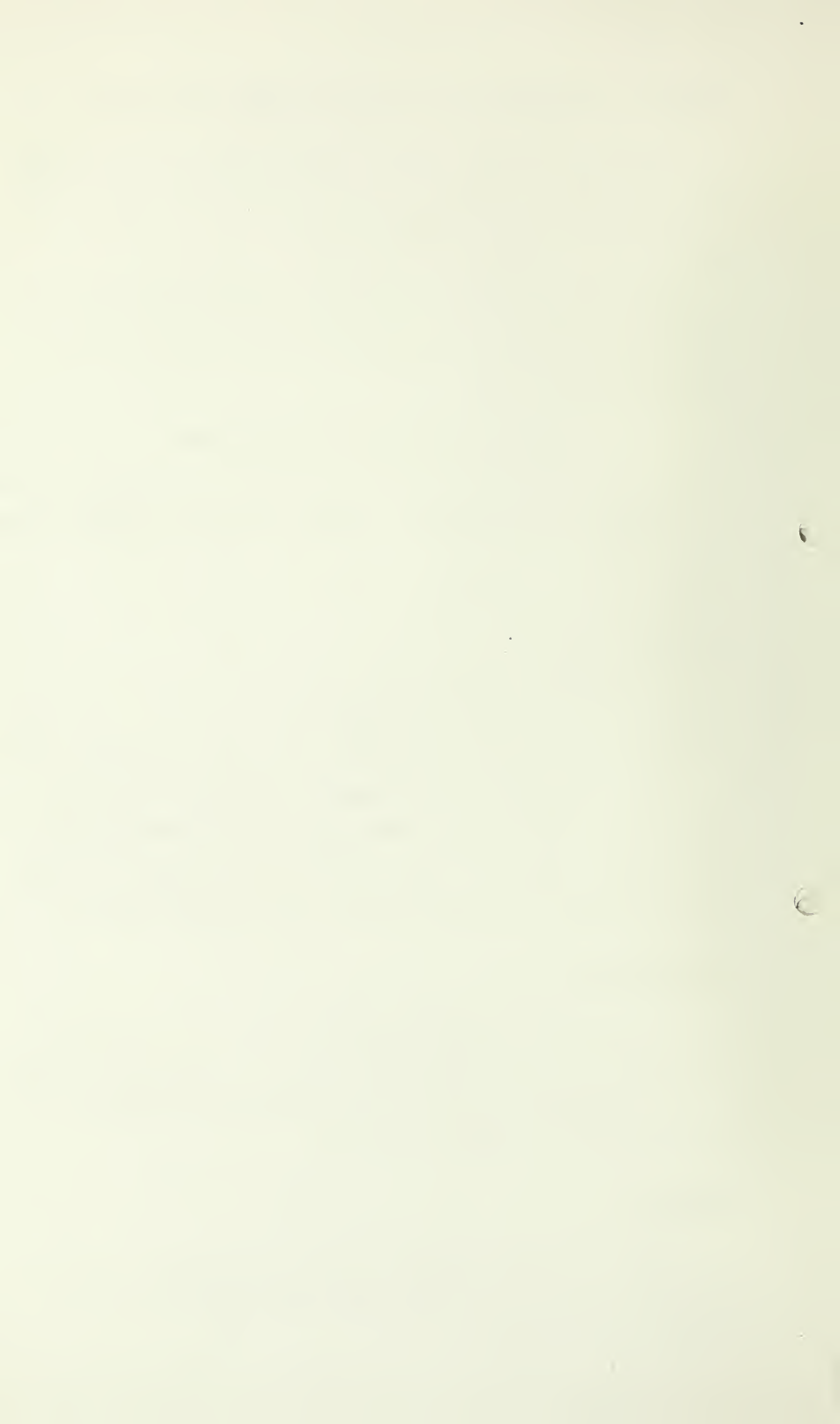
	Cattle excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Pigs.	Sheep and Lambs.
Number killed (if known).	-	-	-	-	-
Number Inspected.	-	-	-	-	1
All diseases except tuberculosis whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	100
Tuberculosis only whole carcasses condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	-



Unsound Food:-

The following table shows the amount of food found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered:-

12lbs Beef	...	...	...	...	Bone Taint
12lbs Beef	...	...	...	...	Blown.
5 Tins Milk	...	...	...	...	Blown.
8 Tins Beans	...	...	...	...	Blown.
9 Tins Fish	...	...	...	...	Blown.
2 Tins Plums	...	...	...	...	Blown.
4 Tins Beef	...	...	...	...	Blown.
12 Tins Bacon	...	...	...	...	Decomposed.
6 Tins Salmon	...	...	...	...	Blown.
12 lbs Bacon	...	...	...	...	Decomposed.
24 lbs Fish	...	...	...	...	Decomposed.
284 lbs Cheese	...	...	...	...	Rancid.
47 lbs Beef	...	...	...	...	Bone Taint.
28 lbs Fish	...	...	...	...	Decomposed.
32 lbs Cheese	...	...	...	...	Rancid.
4 Tins <del>Beef</del> Milk	...	...	...	...	



SECTION F. - PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASE:-

The number of confirmed cases of infectious disease notified during the year was 59 which is much less than the corresponding figure for the previous year which was 158 confirmed cases.

The following table shows the incidence of various notifiable infectious disease according to the quarters of the year, confirmed civilian cases only, being included.

Notifiable Disease In Each Quarter, 1948.

Disease.	1st Qtr.	2nd Qtr.	3rd Qtr.	4th Qtr.	Year.
Scarlet Fever.	-	-	2	-	2
Measles.	6	21	9	-	36
Whooping Cough.	3	6	-	-	9
Pneumonia.	4	-	2	3	9
Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	-	-	-	1	1
Dysentery.	-	-	1	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis.	-	-	1	-	1
All Diseases.	13	27	15	4	59.

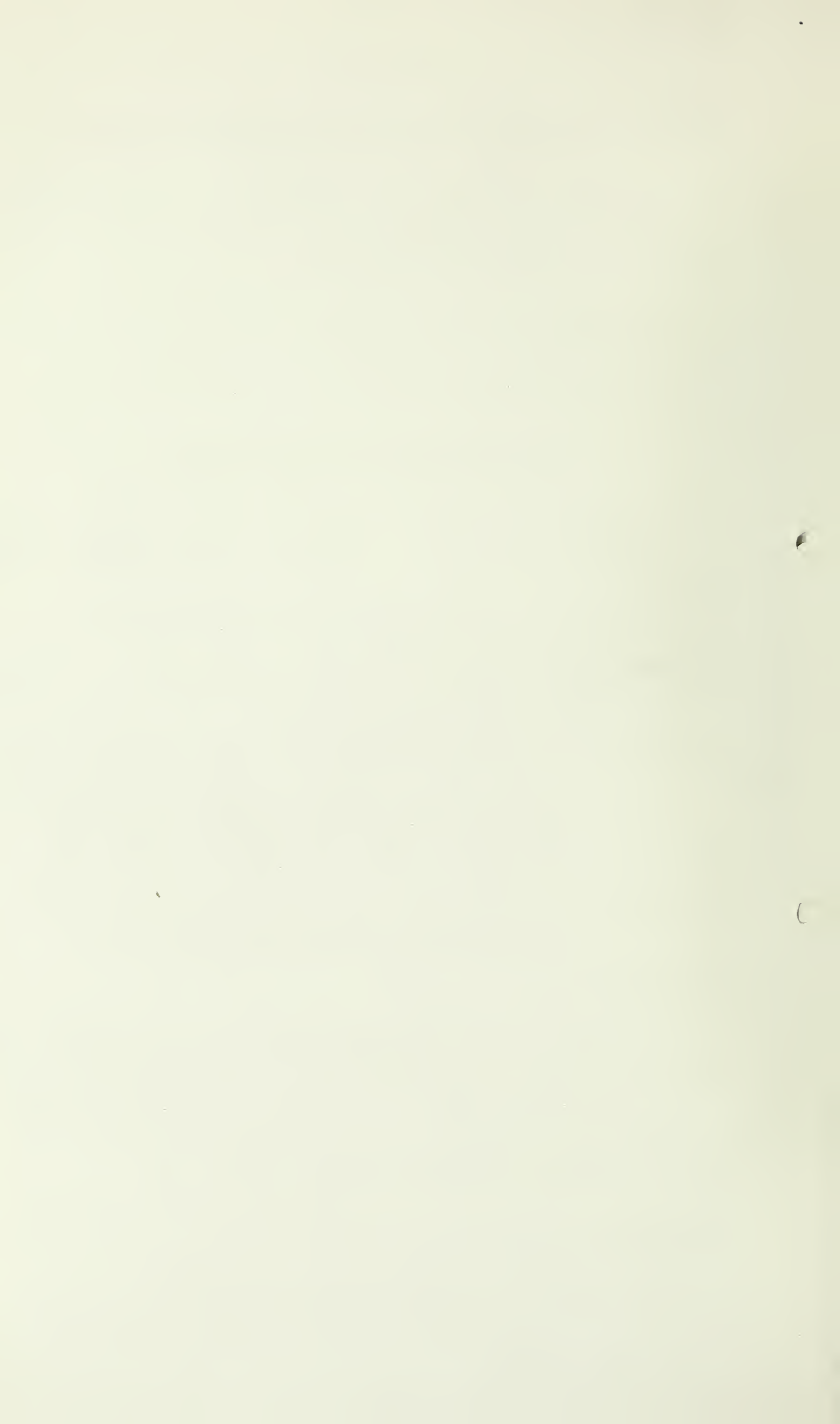
It will be seen that the most prevalent disease was measles which gave rise to 36 notifications. Over half of these occurred during the second quarter, this quarter being that of maximum incidence. The sexes were about equally infected and the disease was mild with no deaths.

Whooping Cough:-

The incidence of whooping cough was very low only 9 notifications being received. This is partly due to the fact that in 1948 was the highest ever recorded., since the disease was compulsorily notifiable. The disease was mild and no deaths were caused.

Pneumonia:-

There were 9 cases of pneumonia notified the same number as in 1948. These occurred throughout the year, apart from the second quarter which yielded no notifications.



Pneumonia was the only acute infectious notifiable disease causing the death of a male person.

Scarlet Fever:-

Only two cases of this disease were notified in the third quarter of the year. In the previous year the number of cases was 11.

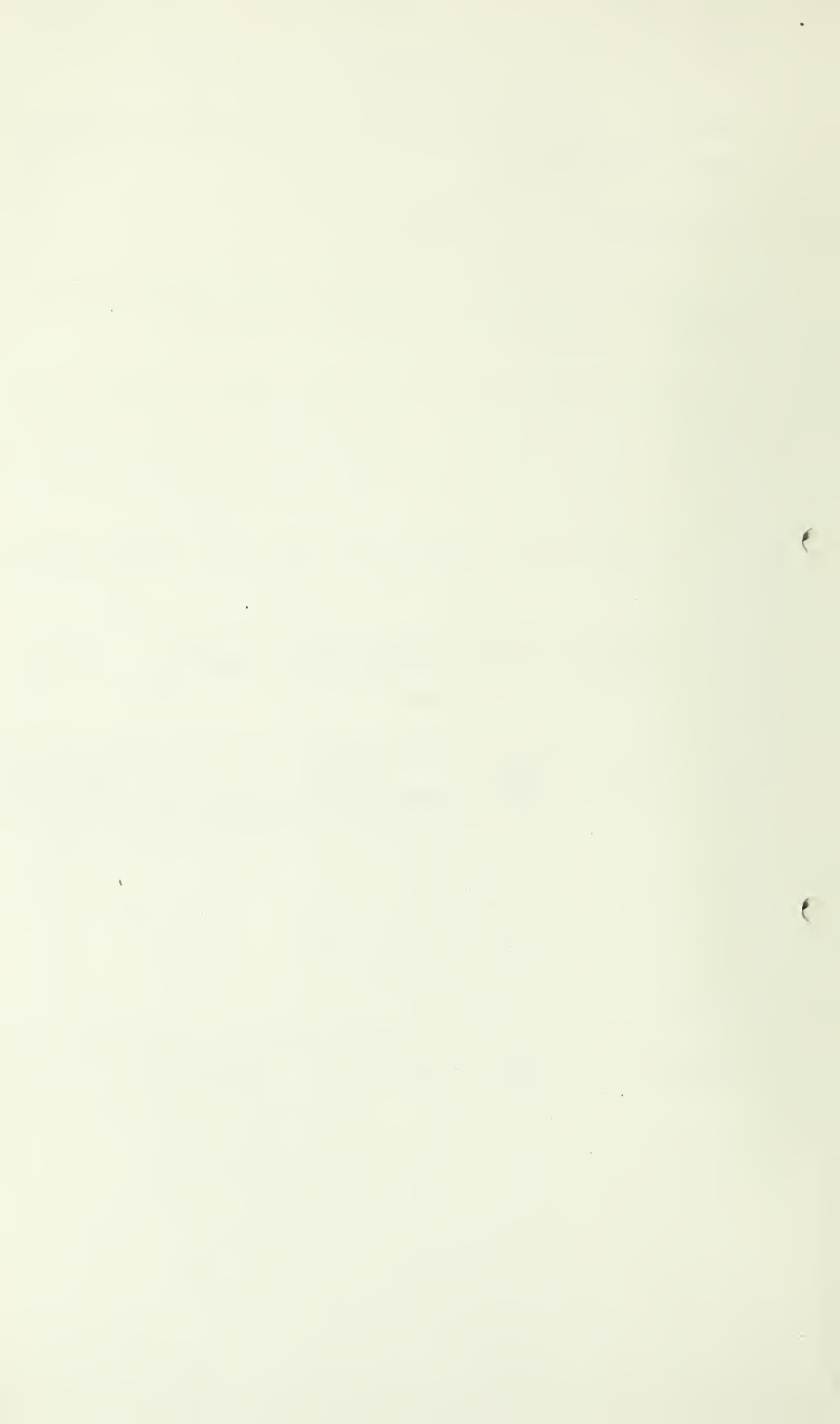
Dysentery (Sonne), Ophthalmia Neonatorum and Acute Polipmyelitis each gave rise to one notification. The poliomyelitis case was of paralytic type with extensive paralysis of both legs with considerable disability, but was not fatal. The patient is still under treatment.

The year, 1949 can be regarded as one particularly free from infectious disease.

Analysis of Notifiable Infectious Diseases According

To Age.

Age Group.	Scarlet Fever.	Whoop. Cough.	Measles.	Pneu- monia.	Dysentery.	Acute Polio- myelitis.
0+	-	2	3	1	1	-
1+	-	2	5	-	-	-
3+	1	2	6	-	-	-
5+	1	1	14	1	-	-
10+	-	1	4	-	-	-
15+	-	-	3	4	-	-
25+	-	1	-	-	-	1
45+	-	-	-	1	-	-
65+	-	-	-	2	-	-
Age U.K.	-	-	1	-	-	-
All Ages.	2	9	36	9	1	1



Tuberculosis:-

At the end of 1948, there were 63 cases of tuberculosis on the Register, 47 Pulmonary and 16 non-pulmonary. During the year 10 cases were added to the register 7 pulmonary and 3 non-pulmonary, of these 7 pulmonary and 2 non-pulmonary were with respect to new cases. During the year 6 cases were removed from the Register, 2 pulmonary and 4 non-pulmonary, and on the 31st December, 1949, 67 cases remained on the Register, 51 pulmonary and 16 non-pulmonary. There was one death from tuberculosis and three cases recovered.

CASES AND MORTALITY DURING YEAR 1949.

Age Periods.	New Cases				Deaths.			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5+	1	4	-	1	-	-	-	-
15+	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25+	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
35+	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-
45+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55+	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65+	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Totals.</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>

